(d) the funds allotted during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) to (d) Due to meagre allocation of funds to this Ministry, demands for funds made by States could not be met.

However, a statement of funds allotted to the States during 1994-95, 1995-96 & 1996-97 is given in the Annexure. [*See Appendix 182, Annexure No. 22*]

New National Highways in Gujarat

894. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL:
SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Gujarat has made proposals for declaring new National Highways in the State, if so, what is the current status of these proposals and whether Government are accepting these proposals;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any provision has been made in the Ninth Five Year Plan to declare New National Highways in the country?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b) The proposals forwarded by the State Government of Gujarat for declaration of new National Highways could not be acceded to due to resource crunch in the 8th Plan.

(c) Ninth Plan is yet to be finalised.

Construction of Six Track Mumbai-Pune Express Highway

895. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to construct six track Mumbai-pune Express Highway in Maharashtra was pending for so many months in the different Central Ministries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have okayed the proposal recently; and

(d) if so, what were the grounds of giving No Objection Certificate to the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Environmental clearance for part length of the Expressway has been accorded by the Ministry of Environment and Forest.

Financial condition of CRF

896. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the nature and the financial condition of Central Road Funds (CRF);

(b) the guidelines for allocation of the share to different States and Union Territories from this funds;

(c) the share of Bihar from CRF during the last two years, year-wise;

(d) the reasons for allocation of lesser funds to Maharashtra as compared to other States; and

(e) the position of Maharashtra so far as National Highways are concerned vis-a-vis other States?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) Central Road Fund (CRF) is a non-lapsing fund and is governed by an old resolution of Parliament whereby an amount not less than 3.5 paise per litre out of the duty of custom & excise levied on motor spirit, is set apart and the proceeds thereof have to be applied for the purpose of road development.

(b) The fund is allocated to various states in proportion to the consumption of motor spirit in the respective states as well as schemes sanctioned and availability of funds.

(c) The funds allocated to Bihar from CRF during the last two years are as under:

	(Rs. in lakhs)
1995-96	25.00
1996-97	10.00